

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 STATE 184040

41 55
ORIGIN ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CG-00 SCI-06 EPA-04 CEQ-02 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 PA-03 RSC-01 USIA-15 PRS-01

SPC-03 COA-02 /068 R

DRAFTED BY ARA/CAR/BI:KLWAUCHOPE:SAG

9/14/73 EXT 22115

APPROVED BY ARA/CAR - MR. WHEELER

ARA/CAR - MR. HIGH

USCG - CMDR. PHILLIPS

----- 102180

R 150018Z SEP 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY NASSAU

UNCLAS STATE 184040

E.O. 11652: N.A.

TAGS:

SUBJECT: TOXIC CHEMICAL DRUMSADRIFT IN GULF OF MEXICO

1. DEPARTMENT TRANSMITS REPORT JUST RECEIVED BY COAST GUARD CONCERNING POTENTIALLY HAZARDOUS SITUATION WHICH COULD ENDANGER FISHERMEN AND RESIDENTS IN NORTH AND WESTERN BAHAMAS.

2. MEXICAN AUTHORITIES REPORT THAT MEXICAN VESSEL PUEBLO COLLIDED WITH PANAMANIAN VESSEL NEAR CABO CATOCHÉ, YUCATAN PROVINCE, MEXICO, ON AUGUST 5. HOLE WAS TORN IN PUEBLO HULL AND ESTIMATED 380-390 DRUMS OF POTASSIUM AND SODIUM CYANIDE WERE LOST OVERBOARD BETWEEN COLLISION SITE AND VERA CRUZ, PORT TO WHICH PUEBLO WAS TOWED. COAST GUARD IS ATTEMPTING TO FORECAST DRIFT PATTERN WHICH HAS BEEN DISRUPTED BY TWO TROPICAL STORMS SINCE TIME OF COLLISION. DRUMS COULD BE ANYWHERE IN GULF OF MEXICO OR FLORIDA STRAITS. MORE ACCURATE FORECAST WILL BE FORWARDED WHEN UNCLASSIFIED

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 02 STATE 184040

AVAILABLE.

3. DRUMS ARE TWO AND ONE HALF FEET HIGH, 14-18 INCHES IN DIAMETER; PAINTED BLUE WITH WHITE STENCILED MARKINGS QUOTE DANGEROUS, CLASS 6 MATERIAL UNQUOTE. CONTENTS ARE HIGHLY TOXIC POISON CAPABLE OF KILLING ON CONTACT OR BY INHALATION OF VAPOR. DRUMS ARE MADE OF THIN METAL

AND WERE NOT TREATED FOR CORROSION; THEREFORE SALT WATER IS LIKELY TO CAUSE RAPID DETERIORATION. ANTIDOTE FOR POISON IS KELOCYANOR. RUSH

UNCLASSIFIED

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 SEP 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: n/a
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 JAN 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973STATE184040
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: KLWAUCHOPE:SAG
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t19730932/aaaaawzt.tel
Line Count: 72
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ORIGIN ARA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: golinofr
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 02 OCT 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <02-Oct-2001 by maustmc>; APPROVED <14 MAR 2002 by golinofr>
Review Markings:

Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: TOXIC CHEMICAL DRUMS ADRIFT IN GULF OF MEXICO
TAGS: SENV, BF
To: NASSAU
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005